और मजदूरों को नोटिस भेज रहे हैं; और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने कर्ज की वसूली को रोक देने के लिए कोई अनुदेश जारी किये हैं; यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार बैंकों द्वारा कर्ज की वसूली के लिए नोटिस जारी करने संबंधी शिकायतों पर बैंकों के विरुद्ध कुछ कार्यवाही करने का विचार रखती है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री अनिल शास्त्री) : (क) और (ख) वित्तीय संस्थाओं द्वारा ऋणकर्ताओं से देय राशि की वसूली उनका एक सामान्य कार्य है और भारत सरकार द्वारा घोषित ऋण राहत उपाय इस कार्य पर रोक नहीं लगाते । चूंकि यह एक सामान्य बैंकिंग प्रक्रिया है, अतः सरकार इस बारे में कोई दिशानिर्देश जारी नहीं कर रही है ।

Water flowing waste into the Arabian Sea

1889. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in Kerala annually 2500 tmc. ft. of water is flowing waste into the Arabian sea ;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to divert this huge volume of water to augment water resources in Tamil Nadu ; if so, what effective steps have been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ;

(c) whether Government are aware that Tamil Nadu will be needing 1000 tmc. ft. of water in 2,000 A.D. to be self-sufficient in food production ;

(d) by when a project to divert surplus water of the Mahanadi, the Godavari and the Krishna now flowing into the sea is likely to be prepared to augment the water resources in Tamil Nadu ;

(e) whether a scheme was contemplated by the Central Water Commission to divert the Godavari and the Mahanadi water to Tamil Nadu ; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA) : (a) and (b) A large amount of water from Kerala rivers is presently flowing in to the Arabian sea. The Government has already prepared a National Perspective for the development of water resources in the country. For the integrated development of Peninsular Rivers, the National Water Development Agency will undertake water balance studies for the 17 water transfer links. One of these links envisages transfer of water from the west flowing rivers of Kerala to water-short areas of Tamil Nadu. A Preliminary feasibility report in respect of this water link has already been prepared by the National Water Development Agency.

(c) It has been estimated that the total water requirement of Tamil Nadu for various purposes would be 41,767 Mm^3 by 2025 out of which the water requirement for irrigation purposes would be 36,780 Mm^3.

(d) to (f) National Water Development Agency proposes to complete the studies regarding linking of Mahanadi, Godavari, Krishna and Kaveri by the end of IX plan. The detailed field investigation and formulation of a viable scheme will be taken up thereafter by the said agency.

Dxclaring mining as an 'Industry'

1890. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries (FIMI) has urged upon Government to declare mining as an 'Industry' ; and

(b) what new incentives/liberalised measure Government propose for the rapid growth of this important sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has adopted the National Mineral Policy recently. The policy provides various measures for rapid growth of the mineral sector. These include financing of mine development and also exploration integral to the mining project, fiscal measures designed to promote mineral exploration and development including beneficiation, promotion of small scale mining of small deposits, import of machinery and equipment to improve efficiency, productivity and economics of mining operations, incentives for utilisation of low grade minerals, mineral waste and rejects, induction of foreign technology and participation in exploration for high value and scarce minerals.

Export of Agricultural Products by the STC

1891. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the STC has formulated a strategy to boost agricultural exports within the next five years ;

(b) whether any concrete formula has been prepared in this regard ; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) STC plans :—

(i) procurement of agricultural products for direct expor instead of the existing system of back-to-back arrangements;

(ii) export of agricultural products in consumer packs under its own brand name, wherever possible.

(iii) sale of agricultural products like coffee and Basmati Rice on consignment basis ;

(iv) financial assistance to its associate suppliers for increasing the exports ;

(v) exploration of new distributing channels in potential markets.

LIC Court cases in connection with L & T Takeover

1892. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that LIC would be moving the court with regard to the L&T takeover controversy;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) how much money was budgeted for the purpose and how much of the same has been spent so far; and

(d) how much fee is estimated to be paid to M/s. Amarchand Mangaldas and Hiralal Shroff and Company, the solicitors, by LIC in the L&T matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) The LIC has no proposal